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Persecution, and misunderstanding had forced members of the Church to leave their homes and community life in Nauvoo, Ill., the place which the saints called their "City Beautiful." Through the vision and leadership of President Brigham Young, the pioneering members of the Church trudged thousands of weary miles from Illinois, across the plains states, and into the Rocky Mountains. The first company entered the Salt Lake valley on July 24, 1847.

In the mountain country, which they named the Territory of Deseret, the industrious pioneers turned water onto the parched, desert soil and fruitful fields resulted. Timber and stone were taken from the surrounding hills to erect homes and church buildings. An active commerce grew up that made the area the literal crossroads of the west.

As the central settlement of Salt Lake City became established, President Young encouraged the saints to colonize the outlying areas of the Territory. The new settlements strengthened the territory, broadened the influence of the Church and opened up new farmlands for the thousands of Saints who were arriving in the area each month.

During the first decade of colonizing, President Young called settlers to move into southern and northern parts of the territory. Major settlements were established in St. George in the south, Manti and Provo in the central area and Logan and Cache Valley in the north.

In the Provo area, settlers began moving in about 1849. The city grew until about 1857 when some of the townspeople felt that all the choice land had been claimed. Newly arrived settlers began looking toward "greener pastures" on the other side of the Wasatch Mountains.

One summer Sunday morning in 1857 a group of workmen at a sawmill in Big Cottonwood Canyon, southeast of the Salt Lake Valley, decided to spend the day looking at the rumored "paradise land" nestled in the tops of the Wasatch range. The men, Charles N. Carroll, George Jacques, James Adams and others, hiked to the summit of the range and brought back glowing reports of a desirable agricultural valley.

Rumors still existed that there was frost in the valley during every month of the year. However, the favorable reports of the sawmill workers, and others, made many people anxious to settle in the area. Thus

*The Gardner  
Exploration of 1852  
as told by 'How Beautiful  
Upon the Mts.'*

it was that during the Spring of 1858 a group of cattlemen in Provo drove a herd of stock through the canyon and established some ranches at the south end of the valley. Those in the group included William Wall, George W. Dean, Aaron Daniels and a few others. With an eye toward keeping their cattle in the valley during the winter these men harvested a large crop of meadow hay.

During the Spring and Summer of 1858 a number of persons explored the area and decided it would be a satisfactory place to settle.

The first steps toward settlement came in July, 1858, when a party headed by J. W. Snow, county surveyor in Provo, went to the valley and laid out a section of ground just north of the present site of Heber City. Twenty-acre tracts were surveyed and each man in the party selected his farm.

Having decided to settle in the valley, the men turned their attention to the feasibility of constructing a road through Provo Canyon. As early as 1852, an explorer, William Gardner, had recommended that such a road be constructed. Then in 1855 the Territorial Legislature enacted a measure empowering Aaron Johnson, Thomas S. Williams, Evan M. Green and William Wall to construct a road from the mouth of Provo Canyon in Utah County to the Kamas prairie. From there it was to travel northeasterly on the most feasible route until it intercepted the main traveled road from the United States to Great Salt Lake, near Black Fork in Green River county.

Unfortunately, this road was never begun. Misunderstandings with federal officials resulted in the appointment of Alfred Cumming as the territorial governor in 1857. He was escorted into the Utah territory by federal troops commanded by Gen. Albert Sidney Johnston. The presence of federal troops gave the Mormon people more to think about than building the road.

By mid-1858, however, the troops were peacefully garrisoned at Camp Floyd near Utah Lake and the Mormon people had returned to normal living.

With cattle grazing on the Wasatch lands, and with ranch sites already surveyed, the need for a road again became an issue of primary importance. To win support for the project, a group of Provo men took the matter to President Brigham Young and explained both the hardships and the advantages of building such a road. The Church President favored the project and called a meeting in the bowery at Provo on June 6, 1858. He said at that time:

"A road up Provo Canyon is much needed, and we want ten or twenty companies of laborers to go on it forthwith in order to finish it in about fifteen days so that you can go into the valleys of the Weber where there is plenty of timber.

"I understand that a company has been chartered by the legislative assembly to make that road. If those men will come forward we will take the responsibility of making it. We shall need about 500 laborers."



clerk. When Grant Averett was released, Malin Lewis was sustained in the bishopric.

Some of the leaders who have served in the ward since the 1903 division include the following:

**PRIMARY:** Mary Elizabeth McDonald, first president with Janet Duke and Kate Turner, counselors and Anne Coleman, secretary. Other presidents have included Josie Todd, Jennie B. Duke, Chrissie Jones, Lilly Giles, Zella Blackley, Dulce Young, Atha Montgomery, Mabel Crook, Anna Turner, Hope Watson, Nellie Johnson, Ethel Broadbent, Fay Hilton, Marvel Murdock, Retta Simpson, Verna McKnight, Betty Duke, Toma Waldbeiser, Lela Bond, Faye Bonner and Elouise Buell.

**RELIEF SOCIETY:** Presidents since 1903 have included Margaret Murdock, Annie J. Duke, Linda Duke, Arbelia Harvey, Elizabeth McDonald, Alice Lambert, Jennie Broadbent, Lacy Duke, Retta Allen, Mrs. Frank Price, Leda Titus, Fay Hilton and Ethel Broadbent.

**YMMIA:** Superintendents have been Louis Jorgensen, Squire Simpson, Wilson Young, Scott Murdock, Clyde Broadbent, Ferrel Anderson, Courtney Childs, Johnnie Brandt, Harris Parcell, Harold Stevens, Grant Averett, Burton Duke and Kent Larsen.

**YWMIA:** Organized on May 24, 1903 with Martha Duke as president with Isabell Baum and Maggie Murdock as counselors and Edna Averett secretary. Other presidents have been Dora Murdock, Crissie Duke, Lucretia Smith, Alice Wood, Alice Murdock, Lizzie Lindsay, Ardell Clyde, Lacy Duke, Virginia Christensen, LaVon Burch, Enid Duke, Lola Curry, Mable Smith, Ellen Duke, Marvel Murdock, Sylvia Johnson, Mima Rasband, Afton Rosenbaum, Maryan Ryan and Fern Young.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Superintendents have included Orson Ryan, Alfred Duke, Allen Curry, John H. Miller, Frank Epperson, Howard Duke, Lester Greenwood, H. Ray Hatch, Lyman Duke, Sylvan Smith, D. L. Hilton, Thomas Perry, John Turner, Dean Balls, Reed Giles, Kenneth Johnson, Rex Whiting, Stephen Mahoney, William Jordan, Orson Allen, Lynn Murdock, Malin Lewis and Bob Provost.

**CHOIR LEADERS:** Roger Horrocks, John H. Murdock, Emil Peterson, Frank Epperson, Storm McDonald, a Mr. McAllister, ElRoy Van Wagoner, Jennie Brown Duke, Ramon Duke and Maxine Carlile. Organists have been Jane Hatch Turner, Mina Duke Stevens, Dora Jones Bennion, Vera Rasband who served for 40 years, LaVada Harrison and Florence Anderson.

### HEBER SECOND WARD

When the new boundaries of the Heber Second Ward were established in the 1903 division, a special exception was made to include the premises of Joseph A. Rasband who lived on the east side of Main Street, for Brother Rasband had been selected by the Stake Presidency to be

nounced as First North, with the Second Ward to include the portion between First North and Second South, west to the Provo River.

Don Hicken was sustained as bishop of the Second Ward after the division on Sept. 5, 1954. His counselors were J. Harold Call and Mark Fortie, with Clyde Muir and Raymond Jiacoletti as clerks. In 1958 Brother Call was sustained as stake president and Wayne Thacker was called as a new counselor in the bishopric. George Pitts succeeded Brother Muir as ward clerk.

Some of those who have served in leadership capacities during the years in the Second Ward are as follows:

**RELIEF SOCIETY:** Sarah E. Carlile, president from 1903 to 1919, with Margaret Murdock, Mima Broadbent, Rachel Giles, Mary E. Giles, Rachael A. Giles and Janett Duke as counselors and Sophia Luke, Amelia Carlile, Sarah Forman, Mary J. Duke and Emma Carlile, secretaries and treasurers. Other Relief Society presidents and the years in which they were sustained are as follows: Rachel A. Giles, 1919; Maybell Moulton, 1930; Emma J. Fortie, 1932; Florence Nelson, 1934; Ethel Watson, 1940; Luella Brienholt, 1943; Retta Murdock, 1944; Jennie Broadbent,



Shown here are Sunday School officers and teachers of the Heber Second Ward in 1907. Pictured are, front row, left to right, Lula Moulton Hicken, Verna Horrocks Epperson, Mary Buell Simkins, Gladys McMullin Davis, Ethel Duke Johnson and Maybell McMullin Moulton. Second row, Simon Epperson, Frank Epperson, A. L. Davis, superintendent, Alma S. Carlile and John Moulton. Back row, Harvard Hanks, Lena Roberts Murray, Sadie Murdock Henline, Ben Roberts, Lillian Cummings Moulton, Minnie Giles Hicken and Reno Crook.